Serial No.: 09/913,995

In the Substitute Specification:

Please delete the first full paragraph on page 5, and replace it with the following replacement paragraph.

The C-shaped springs with inverted edges cover a substantial portion of the corresponding side faces of the superimposed universal joints and they could provide for, in some cases, cut-outs in correspondence with seats of lodgement of the extended elements and they could take different configurations depending on their use.

Please delete the last paragraph on page 6 and continuing onto page 7, and replace it with the following replacement paragraph.

With reference to Figs. 1 to 4, the universal joint 1 forms four seats 2, 2', 2" and 2'" on one of its larger faces in correspondence with each side face, that can accept hinged extended tubular elements, not shown in the figure. On larger face 3 of the universal joint that forms the four seats (2, 2', 2" and 2'") there is an opening 4 to fix the extremity of a tubular extended element 5 (shown in Fig. 4), within which another tubular element slides, not shown in the figure, and connected with a corresponding universal joint. The edges of the face of the universal joint form grooves 6 which constitute seats to accept one of the extremities 8 (shown in Figs. 2 and 3) of a spring 9 as shown in Fig. 4. In one embodiment of the invention, as shown

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